

Happy New Year.

The new year brings many exciting new projects to DDA.

The DDA staff are working to ensure that the Services of Short Duration (SSD) funds are being accessed by people who are on the DDA Waiting List in the Crisis Prevention category. There is a link to information on SSD located under the News Update section of the web site.

This year, the National Association of State Directors of Developmental Disabilities Services (NASDDDS) announced the availability of funding to support Maryland's ability to measure and track state developmental disabilities service outcomes and performance through the National Quality Measurement Project. The award provides initial year funding for Maryland to join the National Core Indicators (NCI) program. More information on Maryland's NCI project and the use of NCI to improve service quality may be accessed at [Maryland NCI Announcement](#) and [Using National Core Indicators Data to Improve Service Quality](#).

Please continue to share your concerns, thoughts, ideas, and experiences with me by contacting my special assistant, Kim Bennardi, at 410-767-5997, or by sending an e-mail to [DDA Executive Unit](#).